

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims. The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions in the Application:

What is claimed is:

1 – 44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) A system for allocating resources to service requests comprising:

a load balancing manager;

a service index block table, part of the load balancing manager, having a plurality of super group indexes, the service index block table being coupled to receive a first service index corresponding to a service request and configured, the service index table to provide a first of a plurality super group indexes in response to the first service index, the service index table to provide a first of a plurality of balancing policies in response to receiving the service index;

a super group block, part of the load balancing manager, having a plurality of resource group indexes, the super group block being coupled to receive the first super group index and configured to provide a first of a plurality of super groups, each super group having one or more resource group indexes in response to the provision of the first super group index;

a first load balancer, part of the load balancing manager, to select a first resource group index from among the first super group based on the first load balancing policy;

a group block, part of the load balancing manager, having a plurality of resource indexes, the group block being coupled to receive the first resource group index and configured to provide at least one or more resource indexes in response to the provision of the first resource group index, each resource index corresponding to one of a plurality of resources; resources; and

a second load balancer, part of the load balancing manager, to select a first resource index from among the one or more resource indexes based on a second load balancing policy, to allocate the resource corresponding to the first resource index.

46. (Canceled)

47. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 46 wherein the resource is a server.

48. **(Canceled)**

49. **(Canceled)**

50. **(Previously Presented)** The system of **Claim 49** wherein the second load balancing policy is selected based on the first load balancing policy index.

51. **(Currently Amended)** The system of **Claim 49** wherein the second load balancing policy is ~~configured~~ selected independently of the first load balancing policy index.

52. **(Previously Presented)** The system of **Claim 45** further comprising a content analysis engine configured to receive at least a portion of a data packet and generate a service index based on at least one of domain name and URL pattern matching.

53. **(Currently Amended)** The system of **Claim 45** further comprising a lookup table coupled to receive at least a portion of a data packet ~~and configured to~~ the lookup table to select the first service index based on at least one of a destination IP, a destination port and a protocol corresponding to the data packet.

54. **(Currently Amended)** The system of **Claim 45** further comprising a history table ~~configured to receive the first service index and~~ override the load balancing manager and select a ~~second~~ resource index based on a persistence policy if a match is found in the history table corresponding to the service request.

55. **(Canceled)**

56. (Currently Amended) A method for allocating resources to service requests comprising:

receiving a first service index corresponding to a service request;
generating a first super group index in response to receiving the first-service index;
generating a first load balancing policy index in response to receiving the service index;
selecting a first load balancing policy from among a plurality of load balancing policies based on the first load balancing policy index;
generating a plurality of first-resource group indexes in response to the first super group index; and
applying the first load balancing policy to select one of the plurality of resource group indexes;
generating at least one or more resource indexes in response to the selection of the one first-resource group index, the at least one resource index corresponding to at least one of a plurality of ~~resources~~ resources; and
assigning a first resource to the service request, the one resource index indicating the resource.

57. (Canceled)

58. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~57~~ 56 wherein the resource is a server.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~59~~ 56 further comprising:

~~generating at least one additional resource group index in response to the first super group index; and~~
~~applying a second load balancing policy to the first resource group index and the at least one additional resource group index to select one of the at least one the first-resource group index.~~

61. (Previously Presented) The method of **Claim 60** further comprising selecting the second load balancing policy based on the first load balancing policy index.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of **Claim 60** further comprising selecting the second load balancing policy independently of the first load balancing policy index.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of **Claim 56** further comprising:
receiving at least a portion of a data packet having a domain name and a URL;
and
generating a service index based on the domain name and pattern matching of
within the URL.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of **Claim 56** further comprising:
receiving at least a portion of a data packet having a destination IP, a destination
port and a protocol; and
generating a service index based on at least one of the destination IP, the
destination port and the protocol.

65. (Currently Amended) The method of **Claim 56** further comprising selecting
overriding the assigning of the first resource and assigning a second ~~server~~ resource to the
service request based on a persistence policy if a match is found in a history table
corresponding to the service request.

66. (Currently Amended) The method of **Claim 65** wherein the steps of generating the
first super group index, generating a first load balancing policy index, selecting a first
load balancing policy, generating a plurality of first-group indexes, generating one or
more resource indexes, and assigning a first resource and generating a first server being
performed only if a match is not found in the history table corresponding to the service
request.

67. (Canceled)